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SOURCE TribuneENEMY AGENTS IN GDR CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

[Comment: The following information is taken from an article by Horst Willim, chairman of the Central Committee of IG Chemie (Industrial Trade Union for Chemical Enterprises), in which he "exposes" some of those allegedly responsible for the June 1953 revolts in the chemical industry of the GDR.

With one exception, no first names were given for the individuals named in the article.

For years, the espionage organizations sponsored by the US, by West German firms, and by the Eastern Bureau of the SPD (West German Social Democratic Party) have been engaged in establishing a network of agents in the plants and cities of the GDR.

The main targets of the enemy agents in the chemical industry were and still are the large chemical plants. Of the 18 ringleaders responsible for the June uprisings in the "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Works, the Buna Chemical Works, and the Agfa Film Factory in Wolfen, 13 were former members of the Nazi Party. The chief ringleader in the "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Works was Schorn, a former SS group leader. Kose, Schumacher, and Vetter were the agents who organized an espionage unit in Building G-32 of the Buna Chemical Works.

The management of IG Chemie has been actively engaged in removing enemy agents from the people-owned enterprises and the trade unions. For example, 82 agents and provocateurs, including Bayer, Vetter, Hartung, Frey, Mueckenheim, and Walphal, were dismissed from the Buna Chemical Works and were ousted from IG Chemie. Enemy agents dismissed at the "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Works include Zepf, Strahl, and Otto. The BGL (Plant Trade Union Management) of the Jenapharm Plant, in Jena, ousted Duphorn, Schindler, Roediger, Waeldigen, and Jahn from the trade union.

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It is an established fact that enemy agents have penetrated the trade union managements, particularly the subordinate management units of IG Chemie. Included among this group of agents were the following: Seeger, who held the position of chairman of an AGL [Workers' Trade Union Management?] in the Buna Chemical Works; Streinert, who was in the EGL of the Kihla People-Owned Porcelain Factory; Heling, who was in the EGL of the Kodak Film Factory; and Michaelis (a woman), who was on the Bezirk committee of IG Chemie in Magdeburg.

Karl Otto, one of the above-mentioned saboteurs in the "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Works, had established contact with the Eastern Bureau of the SPD, in West Berlin, as early as 1950. His chief assignments were to recruit additional agents to carry on enemy activities and to submit, on a continuing basis, espionage reports to the Eastern bureau. Using the cover name "Karl Laerm," Karl Otto transmitted to the Eastern Bureau 12 reports concerning economic and political happenings in the "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Works. Otto also recruited the following agents: Weise, Max, Kleinschmidt, Schnell, Pfeifer, Dempliner, and Halliger. This group worked with anti-GDR propaganda leaflets and called upon the workers of the "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Works to commit murder and arson. The group also printed inflammatory pamphlets on a printing set brought from West Berlin, and disseminated these pamphlets by mail. Otto and his group also had contacts with RIAS (Radio in the American Sector) in Berlin. Using the cover name "Mittwoch," Otto sent reports concerning the Leuna Works to RIAS, which evaluated them and used them to prepare concrete directives for the organization of destructive work in the GDR.

Although no strikes occurred in the Schwarzeheide Synthetic Products Plant, the Zeitz Hydrogenation Plant, the Luetzkendorf Mineral Oil Works, or other chemical enterprises, there is no doubt that enemy agents and terrorists infiltrated these plants for purposes of sabotage.

In the light of these findings, all managements and members of IG Chemie must increase their vigilance to the utmost, so as to expose all provocateurs and agents still in the chemical industry and turn them over to the security organs.

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